

Appl. No.: 09/855,042
Amdt. dated 04 JAN 2006
Reply to Office Action of 30 Dec 2005

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please accept the attached sheet of proposed drawing corrections including changes to Figure 1. This sheet replaces the sheet of formal drawings filed with the application. In Figure 1, element 174 has been coupled to other elements by an arrow showing element 174 as input into element 172.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet including Figure 1; and
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes to Figure 1.

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III. REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the instant application.

A. Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 are allowed.

B. Drawings

In paragraph 3 of the Office Action, Figure 1 is objected to because element 174 is not coupled to the other elements. In response, Assignee has amended Figure 1 with an arrow showing element 174, referring to a computer program product, input into storage input device 170 via input 172. See Present Specification at page 5, lines 5-10. With these changes, Assignee respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be reconsidered and withdrawn.

B. Section 112 Rejections

In paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

With respect to claims 1, 8, and 15, Assignee has amended the claims by replacing —and— with “or.” With respect to claim 15, Assignee has amended the claim with commas so that it now reads “a holding area manager for identifying and providing, at a size output, a size of a first set of update information received at an input.” These amendments have been made to address the readability of the claims without altering their scope and are believed to allay the concerns of the Examiner. With these amendments, Assignee respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all claims in the application.

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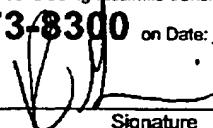
CONCLUSIONS

Reconsideration of claims 1-4, 8-11, and 15-18 in light of the above remarks is respectfully requested. If, after considering this reply, the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be beneficial towards advancing this case to allowance, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed.

Jan 4, 2006
Date

Sean McDermott
Sean McDermott
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Attachments:
Replacement Drawing Sheet & Annotated Drawing Sheet

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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

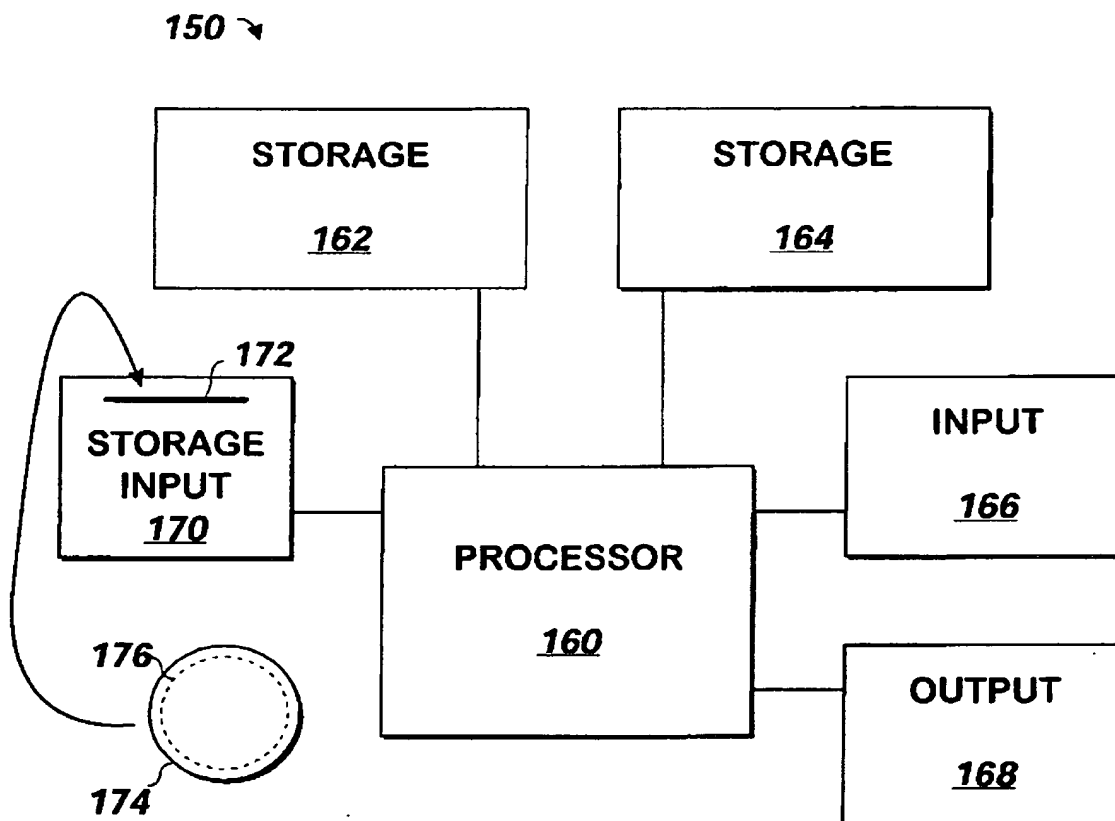


FIG. 1
(PRIOR ART)